

Montana WIC Program  
Abbott Voluntary Recall of Certain Similac Brand Powder Infant Formulas  
September 24, 2010

Background

On September 23, 2010, Abbott issued a voluntary recall for certain Similac powder infant formula products identified by lot numbers. Abbott is recalling these products following an internal quality review, which detected the remote possibility of the presence of a small common beetle in the product produced in one production area in a single manufacturing facility. Abbott states on their website that the fastest way to exchange the formula is to return it to the retailer where it was purchased for an even exchange. Please refer to the sheets attached to the newsletter for the affected products and how to determine if the participant has a recalled formula.

WIC Local Agency Guidance

Please advise participants not to purchase any powder Similac infant formula involved in the recall. If it is determined that a participant has the recalled infant formula, Local WIC agencies are encouraged to use the following options for a participant to exchange a recalled product:

1. Return Recalled Formula to the Retailer. Participants may return opened and unopened cans of recalled formula to the retailer, in exchange for the exact same product from an unaffected lot. As a reminder, WIC participants are not allowed to receive a refund for the product. Local clinic staff should be in contact with the retailers in their area to be sure they understand this policy, which can also be found in the Retail Reference Manual, Current WIC Infant Formula on Contract, page 15. If the retailer has no unaffected formula in stock, the participant may bring the recalled formula to the clinic.
2. Return Recalled Formula to the Clinic. The clinic may reissue a benefit for the same contract formula in powder, or a different physical form, or for a comparable contract brand product (Similac Sensitive). In exchanging and replacing affected product, the following guidelines for substitution should be used:
  - Issue a benefit for the number of cans of formula returned. Make a note in the participant's file and complete the void/reissue form.
  - For each 12.4 oz or 12.9 oz can powder formula, participants should receive four (4) 13 oz. cans of liquid concentrate.
  - Keep the returned cans of recalled formula for now – we will send guidance later on how to return it to Abbott. Please do not throw the formula away.

Please contact the State office with any questions.

For Additional Information:

Abbott: [www.similac.com/recall](http://www.similac.com/recall)

Abbott's consumer hotline: 800-986-8850

[http://abbott.com/global/url/pressRelease/en\\_US/60.5:5/Press\\_Release\\_0900.htm](http://abbott.com/global/url/pressRelease/en_US/60.5:5/Press_Release_0900.htm)